

Governor's Interagency Task Force on Homelessness

Progress Report and Work Plan For 2003

December 2002

**Co-Chair Grantland Johnson, Secretary
Health and Human Services Agency**

**Co-chair Maria Contreras-Sweet, Secretary
Business, Transportation and Housing Agency**

Table of contents

THIS PROGRESS REPORT IN CONTEXT.....	3
INTRODUCTION TO THIS PROGRESS REPORT	5
IATF WORK PLAN FOR 2003	7
1. <i>Develop comprehensive homelessness prevention plans</i>	<i>7</i>
2. <i>Develop an assessment tool to identify potentially homeless people_</i>	<i>8</i>
3. <i>Central point of contact for homeless services</i>	<i>9</i>
4 <i>Improved cooperation between the State, local providers.....</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>and the federal government.</i>	<i>11</i>
PROGRESS TOWARD RECOMMENDATIONS MADE JULY 1, 2002	13
<i>July 1 recommendations completed or proceeding</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Recommendations which require additional resources.....</i>	<i>23</i>
ADDITIONAL HOMELESS INITIATIVES UNDERTAKEN.....	26

This Progress Report in context.

“Now, we’re not going to solve the problem of homelessness overnight. Progress will come slowly and incrementally. But I’m not going anywhere. I’m prepared to keep working on this problem until every Californian has a place to call home.”

-- Governor Gray Davis, Governor’s Summit on Homelessness, April 22, 2002.

This is the third report the Task Force has issued on the Governor’s homeless initiative since the Governor first announced that initiative in January. In March, the Task Force’s first report described the some 75 existing programs funded by the State that provide services to the homeless or those at high risk of homeless. The March report also identified the lessons learned from identified best practices in preventing or addressing homelessness, and provided descriptions of homeless populations and the basic data held by the State on those who are homeless.

That data suggests that on any given day, there are 361,000 homeless individuals in California – or 1.1 percent of the state’s total population. Of this number, two-thirds are single adults, while the other third are families. The report also noted that some 30 percent of California’s homeless – 108,000 – are so-called “chronic” homeless who have been homeless for six months or more. This population tends to be comprised of single adults who face such obstacles as mental illness, substance abuse problems and chronic physical health problems or disabilities that prevent them from working. Those who are called the “transitional” homeless (being homeless for less than six months) are without permanent housing because of a lack of affordable housing, limited education or skills that allow them to earn wages sufficient to obtain housing, mental illness and substance abuse issues, domestic violence and the lack of family or other support networks, such as runaway youths or youths exiting the foster care system.

The March report made five recommendations:

1. Make preventing and reducing homelessness a State priority;
2. Incorporate outreach into homeless assistance programs;
3. Integrate State services for those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless;
4. Establish long-term goals and plans to combat homelessness in California; and
5. Expand the amount of permanent housing available for special needs populations at high risk of homelessness.

Upon receiving these recommendations, Governor Davis officially created the Task Force by means of an Executive Order, which directed the Task Force to report back by July 1 with a plan for reducing the incidence of homelessness in California. The Task Force began immediately to solicit public comment on how the State could do the best possible job of preventing or alleviating homelessness in California. The Task Force held “focus groups” for in-depth discussion, received comments during several public hearings and also participated in the Governor’s Summit on Homelessness held April 22 in Sacramento.

In issuing its report in July, the Task Force identified three key parameters for its work:

1. The “plan” requested by the Governor was to be action-oriented that listed specific steps could take individually or collectively to combat homelessness;
2. The recommended actions focused primarily on State actions, recognizing that the bulk of direct services is provided at the local level; and
3. That this is an ongoing process that must continue indefinitely and which must be flexible to meet changing demands and resources; there is no such thing as a “final report.”

In addition to a set of guiding principles, the bulk of the July report (available on the web at: www.hcd.ca.gov/hpd/IATF_rpt_homeless.pdf) was a series of 38 recommendations involving all 12 agencies and departments that currently constitute the Task Force. These recommendations fell under the broad categories of improved integration of State services, expanded methods of homelessness prevention, better assessment of those at risk of becoming homeless and expanded opportunities for housing the homeless. Both prior to and since the release of that report, the Task Force has worked upon implementing these recommendations, and identifying new efforts to prevent or alleviate homelessness in California.

Let’s start with this ideal: homelessness is a solvable problem. We simply need to find solutions that work and put them to work. The bottom line is this: it costs a whole lot more to ignore the problem of homelessness than it does to deal with it.

-- Governor Gray Davis, Governor’s Summit on Homelessness, April 22, 2002.

Introduction to this Progress Report

Governor Gray Davis and the Governor's Interagency Task Force on Homelessness remain committed to combating homelessness in California.

While current budget conditions do present a (hopefully temporary) obstacle to the Task Force achieving all that it hopes to achieve, the Task Force is pleased to report that of the 38 recommendations contained in its July 2002 report to the Governor, 25 of these recommendations have either been accomplished or are proceeding. As a further sign that the Task Force is operating in the progressive way envisioned by Governor Davis, agencies have undertaken other initiatives to combat homelessness since July that were not listed in the July report. Unfortunately, the 13 recommendations from the July report that are not proceeding would require additional resources for implementation, and the current budget situation does not now provide for these additional resources.

The single most significant positive development since the Task Force's July recommendations has been voter approval in November of Proposition 46, the \$2.1 billion housing bond. A portion of that amount, leveraged with other funds, is expected to allow the construction for homeless or potentially homeless people of 11,250 units of supportive service housing by 2010.

The most troubling development since this Task Force last reported to the Governor in July is evidence that economic conditions are increasing the number of homeless nationally, including California. Some of this evidence is anecdotal, such as reports of longer lines at food banks. Shelter providers say families with children are the fastest growing segment of the homeless population, which would confirm that the economy is the primary cause of any increase. An annual count taken in San Francisco in October found an 18 percent increase in the number of homeless from the count taken the year before. City officials, however, did suggest that this significant increase may at least partially be due to the count being more thorough than in past years.

In addition to the housing bond signed into law by Governor Davis at his Governor's Summit on Homelessness in April, the Legislature passed four significant bills relating to homelessness. The Governor signed into law legislation that protects shelters aimed at providing services to young adults from age discrimination complaints. Three others pieces of homeless legislation – to create a State Office of Homelessness in the Governor's Office, to mandate a census of the deaths of homeless persons each year and to create state-funded homeless courts – were vetoed primarily for budgetary reasons.

Even more numerous were actions taken at the local level to address this heart-wrenching issue. One of the most visible actions – the decision by San Francisco voters, by a 60-40 margin, to cut the city's monthly general assistance check to

homeless adults from \$395 a month to \$59 a month plus shelter and food – is a strong indication that Californians are anxious to try new strategies to combat homelessness.

To that end, the Task Force is pleased to be part of what homeless advocates have called the most significant State effort in the nation to combat what has traditionally been considered a local issue – although the Task Force emphasizes that key to this effort is a strong State partnership with local government and non-government service providers.

The Task Force remains convinced that it is on the right track in focusing on the prevention of homelessness as its primary goal. This is especially key when working with the large numbers of potentially homeless who are actually in State custody, such as foster youth, mental hospital patients and prison inmates. The Task Force also remains convinced that the key to ending homelessness is to link housing with supportive services that address the root causes of long-term homelessness, such as addiction or mental illness.

The Task Force is concerned about the State budget. Some key programs, such as the Integrated Services for Homeless Adults with Severe Mental Illness (AB2034), have already had cuts in funding. The Task Force understands that the current financial pain must be shared, but does express hope that the core tools at the State's disposal to combat homelessness be protected to the extent that is possible and reasonable. While budgets must be balanced in the short-term, it is also true that the State's supportive service housing does save money over the long-term.

To offset the realities of the budget, the Task Force understands that now, at a time of limited resources, it is more imperative, not less, that agencies work together and integrate services to maximize efficiencies, reduce costs and improve services. To that end, we recommend the directors of the Department of Aging and the Office of Criminal Justice Planning both be formally added to the Task Force membership. We also invite the full participation of the new State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

It is also important that the federal government be a greater player in this area. The Task Force was pleased to meet with Philip Mangano, the Bush Administration's point person on homelessness. The Task Force intends to strengthen its relationship with its federal counterparts and is anxious to see federal resources support the stated goals of the Bush Administration. California has made a substantial commitment to combating homelessness but given the fiscal problems facing virtually every state, we need significant federal help.

The Task Force is continuing its work and expresses its appreciation to Governor Davis for his leadership on this issue. Its mission is perhaps even more important today than when the Task Force began not quite a year ago. It is the Task Force's intent to report back to the Governor as developments warrant, and also with another more comprehensive report in one year. The Task Force expects to report further progress at that time.

IATF Work Plan for 2003

I want to make this point very clear: this is not the end of this discussion. If anything, this is a new beginning. A new statewide commitment to combating homelessness.

-- Governor Gray Davis, Governor's Summit on Homelessness, April 22, 2002.

1. Develop comprehensive homelessness prevention plans

Purpose: To develop a state Homelessness Prevention Plan to help guide the ongoing development of comprehensive approaches to the prevention of homelessness in California.

Background: The system of care for the homeless populations in California facilitates an end to homelessness for numerous people every day. This population, however, is continually replaced by other homeless persons in this era of increased demand and dwindling resources. The commonly used term to describe homelessness prevention is "closing the front door" on homelessness through the provision of supportive services and housing assistance to those persons in need of assistance to remain in their homes. "Opening the back door" on homelessness refers to the provision of affordable, supportive, permanent housing for homeless individuals to reside. A statewide Homelessness Prevention Plan will provide a comprehensive approach to "closing the front door" on homelessness by addressing the myriad issues of persons who are at risk of homelessness. The Plan will include goals and objectives for the prevention of homelessness through provision of affordable housing and through the provision of integrated delivery of supportive services.

The Task Force has already approved a number of recommendations to address homelessness in California that may be included in the Homelessness Prevention Plan, to include the collection and analysis of homelessness data, assessing risk of homelessness, and development of interdepartmental approaches to integration of services. The full scope of the plan has yet to be determined, and will be the subject of additional discussion.

Goal 1: Development and approval of a framework for the development of a Homelessness Prevention Plan.

- Objective 1 The staff of the Task Force will meet, discuss and draft the scope of the plan and the timeframe for full development of the plan.
Target date: Task Force staff will meet and finalize the framework for the Homelessness Prevention Plan in February 2003.
- Objective 2: Task Force review and approval of the recommended framework and timeline for completion of Homelessness Prevention Plan.
Target date: March 2003.
- Goal 2:** Develop the plan for the coordination of State level services and policies for the Prevention of Homelessness in California
- Objective 1: Implement the assessment process specified in the planning framework
Target date: To be determined.
- Objective 2: Develop the goals, objectives, outcomes, strategies, resources and time frames for the implementation of the plan.
Target date: To be determined.
- Objective 3: Submit draft plan for review and approval of the Task Force.
Target date: To be determined.

2. Develop an assessment tool to identify potentially homeless people.

Purpose: To develop an assessment tool that could be used by the multiple agencies who serve the homeless and potentially homeless so those individuals who are at high risk of becoming homeless can be identified as early as possible in the continuum of care so that appropriate actions can be taken to direct the individuals to the types of services and assistance that may prevent the person from becoming homeless.

Background: As was noted in the Task Force's March 2002 report, there are approximately 75 existing programs in California funded by the state that provide services to the homeless or those at high risk of becoming homeless. California spends more than \$20 billion each year on social service programs that come in direct contact with those at high risk of becoming homeless. However, preventing homelessness is not a stated priority or explicitly identified as part of these programs' missions. For example, of the millions of people who are touched each year through MediCal, CalWorks, Food Stamps, or SSI/SSP, many are one incident away from becoming homeless but are not specifically identified as at-risk or offered targeted assistance aimed at keeping them in stable housing. An

assessment tool would help focus each agency on the Governor's stated goal of making homelessness reduction a priority for every State agency, and would give direction to these agencies in how to better assist those at risk of becoming homeless.

Goal: Develop a draft assessment tool for review by the Task Force.

Objective 1: Develop a working group comprised of representatives from the Health and Human Services Agency, Health Services, Corrections, Alcohol and Drug Programs and Social Services.
Target date: January 2003.

Objective 2: Define the parameters of an assessment tool and prepare an initial draft for Task Force review.
Target date: April 2003.

3. Central point of contact for homeless services

Purpose: To outline outreach and marketing efforts that may evolve into a "One-Stop" approach to homeless services.

Background: It will be instrumental to use current models such as California's One-Stop Career Center System, a statewide network of centers that each provides employment, education, and training services all in one place. One-Stop Career Centers are established and maintained as part of the local communities. They are conveniently located and provide a wealth of information and assistance for job seekers, education and training seekers, and employers. These centers include partner programs such as Unemployment Insurance, Job Services, Vocational Education, Vocational Rehabilitation, and Youth programs.

The homeless One-Stop approach may be "virtual" depending on the referral method to existing services.

Goal 1: Provide easy access to information to assist the homeless in obtaining services.

Goal 2: Provide information to assist the public in locating government as well as community and faith-based organizations that help the homeless.

Objective1: As part of the existing "My California" portal, create a new State of California Homeless Services Internet web site www.homeless.ca.gov. This web site would include, but not be

limited to, links to state, federal, county, and local government agencies, plus One-Stop Shops, and community and faith-based organizations offering funding, programs or services in California for the homeless. The web site would list service providers, with contact information, by county.

Target date: Depending on how long it takes to compile the information and the number of design iterations and text changes = 6-9 months, from interagency agreement to final launch.

Benchmarks: Number of hits annually; number of new listings added annually; decrease or increase annually in the number of homeless.

Objective 2:

Establish a State of California toll-free homeless hotline: 1-800-HOMELES. A call center, operating 24/7, 365 days a year, would refer callers to state, federal, county, local government and community and faith-based organizations, plus One-Stop Shops. A possible solution for a call center may include location at a state correctional facility and staffed through Prison Industries with inmates. A regional approach may need to be taken to insure current and readily available local service information. The call center staff would refer homeless persons and the public to service providers.

Target date: Depending on how long it takes to compile the information for the call center and enter into an agreement with Prison Industries = 6-12 months.

Benchmarks: number of phone calls annually; number of referrals annually; decrease or increase annually in the number of homeless.

Objective 3:

Create a pocket-size water-resistant information card. One side of the card would contain a *Homeless Bill of Rights*. The other side would include the link for a state web site listing homeless services, plus One-Stop Shops, and the toll-free telephone number for a state homeless hotline.

Target date: Depending on design iterations, camera ready = 4 to 8 hours; depending on the number of copies and the number of distribution points, printing and distribution = 3-6 months.

Benchmarks: Number of copies printed/distributed/requested annually; decrease or increase annually in the number of homeless.

Objective 4:

Publish annually a book, working title: *Services in California for the Homeless*, listing homeless services in California provided by state, federal, county, local government as well as community and faith-based organizations, plus One-Stop Shops. The listings would include contact information such as phone numbers, email addresses, mailing addresses, directions & maps, and web sites.

Target date: Depending on the number of design iterations and

text changes, camera ready = 30-40 hours; depending on the number of copies and the number of distribution points, printing & distribution = 3-6 months.

Benchmarks:: Number of new listings added annually; number of copies printed/distributed/requested annually; decrease or increase annually in the number of homeless.

Objective 5: Conduct a media event at the state Capitol for Governor Davis to announce all of the proceeding.

Target date: The first day of winter (December 22) 2003.

Benchmarks: Number of attendees at the event; number of organizations at the event; number of news media hits regarding the event.

4 Improved cooperation between the State, local providers and the federal government.

Purpose: Develop a closer working relationship between the State Interagency Task Force (IATF) on Homelessness and other providers.

Background: While the State administers some 75 programs that serve the homeless or potentially homeless, most of the actual services are provided at the local level by government or non-government providers. Meanwhile, the federal government has a key role in combating homelessness as a major funder of homeless programs at the State and local levels. While it has held hearings and met with local government and non-government providers and federal officials, the Task Force to this point has been focused on coordinating State activities and it is now appropriate to have a more formal working relationship with other levels of government and non-government interests.

Objective 1: Ensure that local and federal government agencies and non-government service providers who work on homelessness issues are kept informed of the work of the IATF via as many means as possible, including the wide dissemination of this report, and specifically advise local government and non-government service providers of IATF actions taken in direct response to concerns raised or suggestions made by local government and non-government service providers.

Target date: January 2003.

Objective 2: Each individual IATF member will take personal responsibility to disseminate information on the work of the IATF to its local

government constituencies, and will include updates on the work of the IATF in its regular communications with these constituencies.

Target date: January 2003.

Objective 3:

As developments warrant, individual IATF members will engage in a dialogue on homeless issues with their respective local government and non-government provider groups.

Target date: January 2003.

Objective 4:

On at least an annual basis, the IATF will meet with the Region IX federal interagency task force on homelessness to discuss mutual concerns and to coordinate state and federal efforts on homelessness.

Target date: March 2003.

Objective 5:

Create an advisory committee to the IATF comprised of a wide array of constituencies, including local government, non-profits, local government associations, local redevelopment agencies and the federal government that would meet at least annually with the IATF.

Target date: June 2003.

Progress toward recommendations made July 1, 2002

July 1 recommendations completed or proceeding

Cross-Cutting Issues*

Proposal 1.2 (All): Make homelessness prevention a key mission of state agencies.

Status: The Task Force agreed at its Oct. 29, 2002, meeting that developing comprehensive homelessness prevention plans will be a key element of the Task Force's work plan for 2003.

Next steps: A work plan to address this recommendation is contained elsewhere in this report.

Proposal 1.3 (All): Conduct research on risk factors associated with becoming homeless and use the findings to develop prevention and intervention assessment protocols.

Status: The Task Force agreed at its Oct. 29, 2002, meeting that developing a working homelessness risk assessment tool will be a key element of the Task Force's work plan for 2003.

Next steps: A work plan to address this recommendation is included elsewhere in this report.

Proposal 1.6 (All): Develop an annual homelessness agenda for California's federal advocacy efforts.

Status and next steps: Staff have discussed bringing together the agencies and departments for a late January, early February meeting to formulate the state's federal homeless policy agenda. We have communicated with the Governor's Washington office, which will work with the Task Force to create our agenda.

*** Numbers refer to the proposal number given in the July set of recommendations. Letters in () refer to the lead agency for each proposal.**

Integration of Programs and Services

Proposal 2.1 (DMH): Integrate and coordinate AB 2034, SHIA, AB 3777, and PATH grant evaluation and data management processes.

Status: DMH held a meeting on Aug. 26, 2002, to develop a proposal for integration of AB 2034 and SHIA evaluation and data collection activities. Staff of the AB 2034 program and the SHIA program met with the AB 2034 evaluation contractor to discuss how current evaluation activities are conducted and to identify a series of steps to be undertaken to accomplish such integration. A telephone conference was tentatively scheduled to review every data element in the AB 2034 evaluation and determine its applicability to the SHIA program. However, progress was delayed when a preliminary analysis of the effort required to accomplish the initiative indicated that significant additional funding would be required.

Next steps: DMH is analyzing options for obtaining the necessary resources to integrate these activities.

Proposal 2.2 (DMH) Reorganize the Systems of Care (SOC) Division within the Department of Mental Health (DMH) to create a new organizational structure that would combine the department's homeless efforts and create a primary point of contact for homeless issues within DMH.

Status: The Systems of Care (SOC) Division within DMH has been reorganized to combine the department's homeless efforts and create a primary point of contact for homeless issues. Both the AB 2034 staff and the SHIA staff now report to the Branch Chief for Adult Systems of Care. This Branch Chief serves as the single point of contact on homeless issues.

Next steps: Paperwork to formalize the reorganization is in process.

Proposal 2.4 (ADP): Create a new category of Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Program Certification entitled the Homeless Shelter Program.

Status: The ADP Licensing and Certification Regulation Development workgroup is in process of developing new regulations for licensing and certifying residential and outpatient programs. That workgroup will be meeting in mid January to review existing proposals and to determine what additional classifications of certified programs need to be developed. It will then begin the work of developing what standards should apply.

Next Steps: To add discussion of a new certification for homeless shelters to the agenda for that workgroup.

Proposal 2.8 (DHS): Expand state support of collaborative planning activities for the development of integrated housing assistance and service delivery and maximization of available resources.

Status: Development of local HIV planning groups is underway and expected to be completed by spring, 2003. The contractors overseeing this process at the local level have been directed to include persons who can effectively represent various under-represented, underserved or disenfranchised populations, to include the homeless population.

Next steps: The Office of AIDS is continuing to provide technical assistance and training to local contractors in the development of community planning groups. On target for full development of planning groups by spring 2003 with comprehensive HIV plans fully developed by June 2003.

Proposal 2.9 (DHS): Direct the California Rural Health Policy Council to devote public meeting time to the issue of rural homelessness.

Status: The Rural Health Policy Council Interim Executive Director has been given the go-ahead, and he has shared this information with his Council members.

Next steps: The Rural Health Policy Council will garner testimony from the rural areas regarding the issue of rural homelessness during its spring meeting.

Proposal 2.10 (DHS): Utilize the housing-specific civil service classification "Housing and Community Development Representative/Specialist" within state departments and agencies administering homeless programs.

Status and next steps: The Office of AIDS (OA) within the Department of Health Services is continuing to utilize the HCDR II classification to staff the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Program.

Proposal 2.11 (OSE): Require the proposed Council on Homelessness to collaborate with the Department of Education to provide technical assistance to local education agencies on the resources available to homeless families or families at risk of becoming homeless.

Status: HCD and OSE participated with the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instructions in a day long workshop on September 4th on implementing the No Child Left Behind Act. District liaisons from around the state were briefed on the activities of the IATF and the Governor's plan for integrating existing services into school efforts to prevent homelessness.

Next steps: Meet with the new State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Prevention

Proposal 3.1 (ADP): Identify the major barriers, issues, and needs impacting alcohol and other drug (AOD) clients who are homeless.

Status: The process to identify the barriers, issues, and needs impacting homeless AOD clients is currently under review due to resource constraints.

Next Steps: Meet with major stakeholders to discuss cost effective means to collect the needed information.

Proposal 3.2 (ADP): Ensure that services through the federal Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities (SFDSC) program be provided to at-risk and currently homeless youth, including those in need of mental health services.

Status: On August 19, 2002 the Department released a Request for Applications (RFA) for the purpose of fostering safe and drug-free learning environment that supports student academic achievement for the California youth. The RFA focused on the needs of at-risk and under-served youth and their environments by creating and supporting programs that: a) prevent the illegal use of alcohol and other drugs; b) prevent school violence; c) involve parents; and, d) coordinate with related federal, state, school and community efforts and resources. Emphasis was given to youth populations not normally served by educational agencies, or those needing special services or additional resources. This included, but was not limited to, youth in the criminal justice system, runaways, homeless youth, and those in need of mental services.

On September 20, 2002, fifty-six applications were received from the counties and subsequently scored. The scoring resulted in awarding 33 grants through this competitive process. Two of those awards included programs and activities targeting homeless youth.

Next Steps: Now that the 33 county grant recipients are identified, the final grant agreement with each county must be negotiated and finalized. As the implementation of the programs and activities to foster safe and drug-free learning environment for our youth progresses, refinements may be identified.

Proposal 3.3 (ADP): (1) Incorporate homeless service delivery models into existing Department of Alcohol and Drug Program (ADP) funded training and technical assistance contracts, and (2) expand the services of the ADP Resource Center to include published research relating to homelessness and AOD problems.

Status (Recommendation 1): The technical assistance contract for general prevention services is designed to meet emerging issues during the contract period. The contractor has agreed to incorporate offerings that include information relevant to homelessness for audiences such as the county alcohol-drug program offices and prevention service providers.

Next Steps: Based on information from the Task Force and from recipients of the TA services, make adjustments to improve the content, delivery and quality of information relevant to homelessness.

Status (Recommendation 2): The Resource Center Clearinghouse has added 14 publications on homelessness during the 2002 calendar year. These publications will be listed in the Publications Catalog to be released in January 2003. The Resource Center will continue to search for and add/delete relevant publications.

The subjects of these publications include: a) why are people homeless; b) plans on how to end homelessness; c) fact sheets on how to end homelessness; d) federal and state government reports; education of the homeless population; and, e) employment, mental illness, addiction disorders and the homeless.

Next Steps: The Library and Clearinghouse will monitor demand for these materials and continue to scan for additional relevant items that may improve the offerings.

Proposal 3.5 (EDD): Expand and/or increase the number of foster youth pilot programs offered through the Employment Development Department.

Status: EDD is in the process of selecting three Local Workforce Investment Areas to pilot Foster Care Youth projects through the local One-Stop Centers. EDD will look for diversity in the pilots that include urban, suburban and rural areas. EDD will use the two current successful Foster Care Youth programs in Sacramento and San Diego, to provide hands on technical assistance and mentoring for the three pilots. EDD will set evaluation criteria for these projects and will work directly with the Casey Family Services, a Foster Care Youth Program. In addition to Casey Family Programs, we are partnering with the California Department of Social Services and AmeriCorps.

Next Steps: Selection of the specific Workforce Investment Areas, securing funding for the administrative and evaluation component of the project. It is estimated that these projects will be in place by early 2003.

Proposal 3.6 (EDD): Increase the amount of money targeted to support employment and training programs for veterans with significant barriers.

Status: The Labor Veterans Workforce Investment Program (VWIP) was allocated \$850,000, which was augmented with \$6 million of the Workforce Investment Act discretionary funds. EDD funded 30 Veteran organizations through a competitive process for employment and training services including services for homeless veterans.

Proposal 3.7 (CDVA): Create the Veteran Parolees Benefits Awareness Program.

Status: CDVA has submitted a purchase order to the Department of Education, Publications Division, for creating three new brochures, two targeted toward veteran parolees and a third targeted toward soon-to-be-paroled veteran inmates. It is anticipated that CDVA will begin working after the Thanksgiving holiday with CDE on creating the camera-ready copy for CDC. CDVA is also broadening distribution of other printed materials and has, for example, provided CDC with about a thousand copies of the EDD/CDVA brochure, "California Directory of Veteran Services," for distribution to correctional facilities and parole agents statewide.

Proposal 3.8 (DMH): Develop and propose revised State hospital discharge protocols and evaluate options for discharge/placement services and funding to be used to minimize the chances of discharged patients becoming re-hospitalized, incarcerated, or homeless.

Status: The Long Term Care Division of DMH, which operates State Hospitals, has been working with the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to expedite issuance of Identification Cards and Driver's Licenses to State Hospital patients scheduled for discharge. DMH and DMV held preliminary discussions in July and began identifying issues to be addressed, such as ensuring undisturbed operations for regular customers and establishing a hospital visit schedule for DMV staff that enables them to process a substantial number of patients at each visit. DMH anticipates that the best solution will probably be unique to each hospital and its local DMV branch office. The names and telephone numbers of the Regional Administrators of the eight DMV regions have been provided to the hospital contact persons and the DMH hospital contacts have also been provided to the Regional Administrators. Atascadero and Metropolitan State Hospitals report that they have agreed to a method for ensuring that the needed California ID Cards and Driver's Licenses are provided in a timely way. Napa State Hospital has been working with the office of the Regional Administrator in Santa Rosa but no solution has yet been identified. The DMV offices within the region have identified some of the difficulties and their limitations, but have not yet agreed on any proposed solutions. Patton State Hospital staff and the manager of the San Bernardino DMV Office will be scheduling a telephone conference for early January.

DMH has conducted a review of the LPS direct discharges for FY 2000-01, FY 2001-02 and for the current FY (July 1 through October 31, 2003). During this period, 1,212 LPS patients were discharged to the community from state hospitals, the majority of whom were discharged to a supervised setting in the community. For those who transitioned directly from the state hospital to a supervised treatment or housing setting, homelessness as a result of state hospital discharge is not an issue. The following table shows the results of the Department's review.

Total LPS	# LPS to	# LPS to
------------------	-----------------	-----------------

	<u>Discharges</u>	<u>Supv. Settings</u>	<u>Unsupv. Settings</u>
FY 2000-01	560	498	58 - 4
FY 2001-02	514	496	17 - 1
<u>July 1 – Oct 31, 2002</u>	<u>138</u>	<u>132</u>	<u>6 - 0</u>
Total	1,212	1,126	81 - 5

The data shows that 1,126 (93 percent) of discharged LPS patients were placed in some type of supervised community setting. The status at discharge of another 81 (6.6 percent) is listed as "alone." It is believed that most of these patients go to their pre-hospitalization home, where they live alone or with family. Only 5 (0.4 percent) of the discharges indicated the patient's discharge status as "transient" or "unknown." The results of this review indicate that, at the present time, very few discharged patients actually become homeless. However, the department will examine more closely the circumstances surrounding the placement of the 86 individuals who were discharged to unsupervised settings to determine if any became homeless. This further review and investigation with hospital staff may help to identify changes that will ensure that no patient becomes homeless.

Proposal 3.11 (EDD/DSS): Develop collaborative programs between the Department of Social Services, the Employment Development Department, and the California Workforce Investment Agency to meet the job training needs of emancipating foster youth.

Status: The CDSS/EDD/WIA Workgroup focused on the Governor's Initiative to enroll foster youth at One-stop centers has met four times. This Workgroup has established sub-committees to focus on specific issues and action steps regarding CDSS, EDD, WIA and Education.

The WIA sub-committee is focusing on making presentations to the WIA boards, and recruiting foster youth for the WIA youth councils. This committee has developed an information packet regarding this Initiative and special issues affecting foster youth and their need for job training and employment experience. This sub-committee is also preparing information on model one-stop programs that are currently addressing the special needs of foster youth.

The CDSS sub-committee is focusing on educating the Child Welfare professionals on the services provided at the WIA one-stops that will assist the foster youth in obtaining needed job experience and job training. In order for foster youth to avoid being homeless, it is important that they obtain the needed job skills to support themselves. This subgroup is compiling information to distribute to the foster care social workers, probation officers, foster parents, group home providers and Independent Living Program Coordinators. They are also developing policy as to identifying responsibility for enrolling the youth at the one-stops.

Next steps: The next scheduled workgroup meeting is 12/10/02. The EDD sub-committee is in the process of establishing 3 pilot programs (see proposal 3.5) and is exploring the possibility of incorporating Americorp volunteers in these pilots.

The Education sub-committee is coordinating information regarding job training and job readiness services through the Department of Education, and the Community Colleges.

Proposal 3.12 (DSS) Expand the Department of Social Services contracts for the Outpatient Substance Abuse Program for Low-Income Women and Their Children to provide a supportive housing subsidy component for women who successfully complete treatment.

Status: The existing \$2 million CDSS contract expected to be extended beyond fiscal year 2002/03. This contract extension will be amended to include component for supportive housing. No added funding will be required to implement housing initiative due to proposed offset in outpatient services allowing for supportive housing services.

Next steps: This is expected to be implemented July 1, 2003.

Proposal 3.13 (CDC): Develop and improve current inter-agency communication and agreements with the state agencies that can influence and enhance release plans for inmates being released by the Department of Corrections.

Status: The CDC is pursuing an interagency agreement with Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to secure either a California Driver's License (CDL) or California Identification (CID) for qualifying inmates prior to their release from prison to enhance reentry stability. CDC has provided DMV with a list of all California State Prisons, although DMV has advised the Task Force there are safety issues involved both in bringing inmates to DMV offices and in transporting DMV personnel to prison locations.

CDC is moving forward with staff from Social Security to initiate social security applications prior to release from prison for CDC's mentally ill population. One of CDC's responsibilities revolves around education our population about community resources and support to promote stability upon release from prison.

Next steps: Continue discussions with DMV to try and resolve safety concerns.

Assessment

Proposal 4.2 (DSS) Enhance the CalWORKs Indian Health Clinic (IHC) Program to include a risk assessment for homelessness.

Status: CDSS will work with Dept. of Alcohol and Drug to include this initiative in the Indian Health Clinic scope of work for the next contract period beginning July 1, 2003.

Housing

Proposal 5.1 (HCD): Establish a goal of creating 11,250 units of supportive housing by 2010 using funds from the housing bond and other sources.

Status: With the passage of Prop 46, HCD is busy implementing its many provisions including the supportive housing provisions of the bond. There are two programs which will provide funding for supportive housing. The existing Multi-Family Housing Program funds supportive housing among many eligible uses.

Prop 46 also funded a separate \$195 million program specifically for supportive housing that has slightly different statutory provisions than the supportive housing in the Multi-Family Housing Program. HCD staff have assembled an internal working group to analyze the statutory differences and to develop program guidelines. HCD is working closely with advocates for supportive housing and is convening two meetings (one in the Bay Area and one in LA) to get input on the provisions of the guidelines. HCD plans to issue a NOFA for these funds in January 2003 also for \$23 million.

In addition, Prop 46 provides \$195 million for the Emergency Housing Assistance program. These funds can be used to build emergency shelters or transitional housing. The NOFA will be issued in January 2003 for \$31 million.

Next steps: A Notice Of Funding Availability for \$65 million in funds will be issued in mid January 2003.

Proposal 5.2 (HCD): Amend state law to more closely integrate fair housing law with laws related to local land use approval.

Proposal 5.3 (HCD): Prescribe local permit processing standards for supportive housing and emergency shelters.

Proposal 5.4 (HCD): For development applications for supportive housing for more than six individuals, or for emergency shelters, expand the authority of an existing state agency or establish a new or subsidiary state-chartered entity authorized to review local government land-use decisions.

Status and next steps for 5.2, 5.3 and 5.4: The issue of siting is taking on even greater importance in light of the passage of Prop 46 since many more housing proposals will be going before local governments for consideration. BT&H and HCD have been discussing with the Governor's office possible legislation. No decision has been made to support or advance any of the proposals.

Several members of the Legislature are considering legislation in this area. At least one legislator is considering a state level land use appeals court.

Recommendations which require additional resources

Cross-Cutting Issues

Proposal 1.1 (All): Establish a State Council on Homelessness, an Advisory Panel on Homelessness, and a State Office of Homelessness.

Status: Governor Davis vetoed SB 1654, which would have established a State Office of Homelessness within the Governor's Office, because the measure had no appropriation attached to it.

Proposal 1.4 (All): Ensure that staff to the proposed Council on Homelessness includes a point person whose charge is to coordinate administrative data collection across agencies, departments, programs, and local entities providing services to individuals or families who are either homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

Status: The Council does not currently exist.

Proposal 1.5 (All): Ensure that staff to the proposed Council on Homelessness includes a point person whose charge is to coordinate policy research and program evaluation across agencies, departments, programs, and local entities providing services to individuals or families who are either homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

Status: The Council does not currently exist.

Integration of Programs and Services

Proposal 2.3 (DMH): Examine existing barriers and opportunities to providing seamless linkages between children's and adult mental health service systems.

Status: The Children's System of Care Section within DMH is working with the CMHDA Transition Age Youth Subcommittee to develop a Resource Directory of agencies/services. They are also developing a network of partners and points of contact for providers who provide children/adult services in assisting transition age youth to achieve a more successful transition into independence.

Proposal 2.5 (ADP): Modify the Terms and Conditions of both the DCP and CDCI grants to identify participants who are homeless and require each grantee to report quarterly on the number of homeless participants.

Status: The original proposal was to modify the Terms and Conditions of both the Drug Court Partnership (DCP) and Comprehensive Drug Court Implementation (CDCI) program grants to identify participant who are homeless and report these numbers to

ADP on a quarterly basis. The proposal also stated that ADP would work with the drug court coordinators, the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) and the Drug Court Systems Steering Committees (DCSSC) for their input as we attempt to develop a homelessness policy. Since the time this concept was developed, the Legislature has further restricted the use of DCP. As a result, counties could find the new requirement to report on homeless participants too labor intensive. It is our goal to avoid any more requirements that could negatively impact county decisions to apply for the funds.

Proposal 2.6 (CDVA): Establish the Veterans Homes Division Homelessness Task Force within the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Status: Unable to proceed due to resource constraints.

Proposal 2.7 (DHS): Utilize existing network of homeless services organizations to do outreach and education with organizations/providers to gather input regarding improving access to clinical care for homeless populations and preventing TB transmission in homeless populations.

Status: To accomplish this proposal, additional resources would be needed. TB cases in the homeless have increased slightly from 6.9% in 2000 to 7.1% (234 cases) of TB cases in 2001. Three local health jurisdictions have received TB Branch assistance for containing outbreaks in homeless shelters that resulted in approximately 20 TB cases.

Prevention

Proposal 3.4 (CDC): Create the Veteran Parolee Transitional Support Program.

Status: Resources are not adequate at this time to reimburse non-profit community-based organizations for transitional housing and supportive services.

Proposal 3.9 (DMH): Develop discharge planning models and make them available to counties to assist with inpatient acute discharges.

Status: A work plan for the first phase of the initiative, a study of current discharge planning processes, has been accepted in concept by DMH System of Care Division management. There was a preliminary discussion of timelines on November 20.

Proposal 3.10 (DSS): Enhance county participation in the Supportive Transitional Emancipation Program (STEP).

Status: There has not been any significant progress due to resource considerations.

Assessment

Proposal 4.1 (DSS): Develop a standardized CalWORKs eligibility pre-screening tool that can be used for people who are currently or at risk of becoming homeless.

Status: Resource consideration at this time precludes implementation of initiative.

Housing

Proposal 5.5 (CDVA): Establish a Base Conversion Committee to monitor the conversion of closed military bases and support homeless service providers by requiring cities and counties to include them in the conversion process.

Status: The committee does not exist.

Proposal 5.6 (DHS): Submit a waiver to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for authorization for local contractors to implement a shallow rent subsidy program using existing funds available through the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS program.

Status: HUD has discontinued acceptance of applications for Shallow Rent Subsidy programs. Recognizing the importance of this level of housing assistance, Office of AIDS (OA) staff are working closely with HIV/AIDS housing providers to develop approaches to providing this type of subsidy, while remaining compliant with HOPWA regulations. HUD has released guidance regarding the use of HOPWA funding to provide Shallow Rent Subsidy assistance. The process for HUD approval of this activity is administratively cumbersome, and the OA is developing proposals for a more administratively expedient approval process.

Additional homeless initiatives undertaken (Beyond the July Recommendations)

- **Veterans Stand Downs:** As directed by Gov. Gray Davis at his Summit on Homelessness on April 22, 2002, CDVA awarded a grant of \$5,000 to each of the nine Stand Downs conducted during calendar year 2002 for a total contribution of \$45,000. This requirement was funded from CDVA's Veteran Services Division's existing 2001/2002 budget.
- **Foster youth and AmeriCorps:** In requesting applications for the latest round of funding, the Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism has stated priority will be given to those projects that either are aimed at helping foster youth transition to emancipation, or which actively recruit current or emancipated foster youth into the AmeriCorps program where they can earn funds, skills, experience and money for higher education.
- **Expanding Continuum of Care Planning:** While most counties in California have done planning for coordinating homeless services many rural areas have not. HCD and HUD have been discussing ways to assist rural counties to conduct planning. HUD and HCD have funds which can be used to provide technical assistance to local communities. In more remote areas of the state, HCD and HUD are considering allowing two or more counties to work together.
- **Housing Mentally Ill Prisoners:** HCD has organized a working group composed of Corrections, Mental Health, Social Services, Health and the Office of AIDS to look at preventing homelessness among Correction's severely mentally ill population. Corrections is providing significantly increased discharge planning that will enhance the ability of mentally ill parolees to transition to stable living environments. The group has met once and is learning what issues need to be worked on to prevent homelessness among this population. This group and the IATF will need to coordinate with the Council on Mentally Ill Offenders.
- **Olmstead Planning:** HCD and DSS have become more involved in Olmstead planning. The Olmstead court decision requires states to assist the disabled transition from institutions to independent living. Many of the populations that the Task Force has identified as at-risk are also affected by the work of the Olmstead working group. The state Long Term Care Council has established an Olmstead Working Group to develop a state plan by early 2003. HHS is holding a series of public forums to gather input on the Olmstead plan. So far, the need for housing with services has been the number one request of the disability community. The IATF should consider how to coordinate planning among the activities.

- **Los Angeles Homeless Planning:** HCD has participated in two meetings with local officials and advocates about how to coordinate various homeless planning efforts in Los Angeles. Mayor Hahn has begun to work on a plan, Sheriff Baca is developing a plan, the business community is developing a plan, the advocates and the LA Homeless Service Authority are developing a plan and the state is developing a plan that affects LA. Among the topics for consideration are coordination, data sharing, and discharge planning among levels of government.
- **No Child Left Behind Act:** HCD and the California Department of Education participated with the Office of Public Instructions in a day long workshop on September 4th on implementing the No Child Left Behind Act. We briefed district liaisons from around the state on the activities of the IATF and the Governor's plan for integrating existing services into school efforts to prevent homelessness.